

Application for Grants
Under the
Fund for the Improvement
Of Education Program
CFDA # 84.215V

Form Approved
OMB No. 1850-0637, Exp. Date 11/30/2001

Partnerships in Character Education
Pilot Projects

U.S. Department of Education
Office of Educational Research and Improvement
Fund for the Improvement of Education Program
Washington, DC 20208-5645

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Application Receipt Date: 2/11/2000

ESTIMATED PUBLIC REPORTING BURDEN

According to the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. The valid OMB control number for this information collection is 1850-0637. The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to average 24 hours per response, including the time to review instructions, search existing data resources, gather the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. **If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to:** U.S. Department of Education, Washington, D.C. 20202-4651. **If you have comments or concerns regarding the status of your individual submission of this form, write directly to:**

Fund for the Improvement of Education Program

Attn: 84.215V

U.S. Department of Education

555 New Jersey Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20208-5645

Application for Grants
Fund for the Improvement of Education Program
Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects

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December 8, 1999

Dear Applicant:

Thank you for your interest in the Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects (CFDA 84.215V) administered by the U.S. Department of Education's Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE) Program.

This application package contains the instructions and forms necessary to apply for a Fiscal Year 2000 grant. Please review this material and carefully follow the instructions for completing the grant application. Your application should address each of the requirements in the statute as well as the selection criteria. **Please note that only State educational agencies, in partnership with one or more local educational agencies, may apply for grants under this program.**

The Department of Education requires applicants to submit an original and two copies of an application. However, it has been our experience that the review process can be completed faster if all applicants voluntarily submit an original and four copies of the application package. The absence of these additional copies will not influence the selection process.

The application receipt date is Friday, February 11, 2000: Please see the application transmittal instructions included in this package. Upon receipt of your application, the Department's Application Control Center will assign your application an identification number which will be returned to you via a notification of receipt. Please refer to this number in any further correspondence concerning your application.

Proposed projects will be reviewed and rated by panels of experts based on the selection criteria. It is anticipated that awards will be announced by the end of April, 2000. If you need further information about the application process please contact me or any member of the FIE team listed below by phone or e-mail.

Beverly Farrar, Program Officer
Carolyn Warren, Program Officer

(202) 219-1301
(202) 219-2206

Beverly_Farrar@ed.gov
Carolyn_Warren@ed.gov

Sincerely,

Pat O'Connell Ross
Team Leader
Fund for the Improvement of Education

[Federal Register: December 8, 1999 (Volume 64, Number 235)]
[Notices]
[Page 68927-68929]
From the Federal Register Online via GPO Access [wais.access.gpo.gov]
[DOCID:fr08de99-108]
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Part V
Department of Education

Office of Educational Research and Improvement; Fund for the
Improvement of Education: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot
Projects; Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year 2000;
Notice

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.215V]

Office of Educational Research and Improvement; Fund for the
Improvement of Education: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot
Projects; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year
(FY) 2000

Purpose of Program: The purpose of the Fund for the Improvement of
Education (FIE) is to support nationally significant programs to
improve the quality of education, assist all students to meet
challenging State content standards, and contribute to the achievement
of the National Education Goals. The purpose of this competition is to
support pilot projects that design and implement character education
programs as a way to address the broader FIE objectives.

Eligible Applicants: Only State educational agencies, in
partnership with one or more local educational agencies, may apply for
grants under this program.

The term "State educational agency" means the agency primarily
responsible for the State supervision of public elementary and
secondary schools (20 U.S.C. 8011 (28)).

The term "local educational agency" means--

(1) A public board of education or other public authority legally
constituted within a State for either administrative control or
direction of, or to perform a service function for, public elementary
or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district, or
other political subdivision of a State, or for such combination of
school districts or counties as are recognized in a State as an
administrative agency for its public elementary or secondary schools.

(2) The term includes any other public institution or agency having administrative control and direction of a public elementary or secondary school.

(3) The term includes an elementary or secondary school funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs but only to the extent that such inclusion makes such school eligible for programs for which specific eligibility is not provided to such school in another provision of law and such school does not have a student population that is smaller than the student population of the local educational agency receiving assistance under this chapter with the smallest student population, except that such school shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of any State educational agency other than the Bureau of Indian Affairs (20 U.S.C. 8011 (18)).

Applications Available: 12/13/1999.

Deadline for Receipt of Applications: 02/11/2000.

We must receive all applications on or before this date. This requirement takes exception to the Education Department General Administrative regulations (EDGAR), 34 CFR 75.102. Under the Administrative Procedure Act (5 U.S.C. 553), the Department generally offers interested parties the opportunity to comment on proposed regulations. However, this exception to EDGAR makes procedural changes only and does not establish new substantive policy. Therefore, under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A), the Assistant Secretary for the Office of Educational Research and Improvement has determined that proposed rulemaking is not required.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: 4/11/2000.

Available Funds: Up to \$2,000,000.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$100,000-\$1,000,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$350,000.

Maximum Award: We will reject an application that proposes a budget exceeding a total of \$1,000,000 for the entire project period.

Estimated Number of Awards: Up to 10.

Budget Period: 12 months.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 85, 86, 98, and 99; and (b) The regulations in 34 CFR part 299.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The statute governing the Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects program limits the total amount awarded to any State to \$1,000,000 and the funding period to five years, of which not more than one year may be used for planning and program design. Each applicant, operating within these parameters, may, in designing character education activities, determine the combination of funds and time that is most appropriate. For example, one applicant

may request \$500,000 per year for two years, another may request \$100,000 for the first year, \$400,000 for the second and third years, and \$100,000 for the fourth year, and a third may request \$200,000 per year for five years. In preparing your application, you should take special care to provide a timeline and a narrative that explains the costs requested for each budget period. Under the Character Education program, State educational agencies provide technical and professional assistance to local educational agencies in the development and implementation of curriculum materials, teacher training, and other activities related to character education. You must propose projects designed to develop character education programs that incorporate the following elements of character:

- (a) Caring.
- (b) Civic virtue and citizenship.
- (c) Justice and fairness.
- (d) Respect.
- (e) Responsibility.
- (f) Trustworthiness.
- (g) Any other elements deemed appropriate by the members of the partnership. Other program requirements are described in the application package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Beverly Farrar, U.S. Department of Education, 555 New Jersey Avenue, NW., room 502J, Washington, DC 20208-5645. Telephone: (202) 219-1301. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

FOR APPLICATIONS CONTACT: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free): 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (301) 470-1244. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1-877-576-7734.

You may also contact ED Pubs via its Web site: <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>

Or you may contact ED Pubs at its E-mail address: edpubs@inet.ed.gov

If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.215V.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain this document in an alternative format (e.g., Braille, large print, audiotape, or computer diskette) on request to the program contact person listed under FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT.

Individuals with disabilities also may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternative format by contacting that person. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternative format the standard forms included in the application package.

Electronic Access to This Document

You may view this document, as well as all other Department of Education documents published in the Federal Register, in text or Adobe Portable

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Document Format (PDF) on the Internet at either of the following sites:

<http://ocfo.ed.gov.fedreg.htm>

<http://www.ed.gov/news.html>

To use the PDF you must have the Adobe Acrobat Reader Program with Search, which is available free at either of the previous sites. If you have questions about using the PDF, call the U.S. Government Printing Office (GPO), toll free, at 1-888-293-6498; or in the Washington, DC, area at (202) 512-1530.

Note: The official version of this document is the document published in the Federal Register. Free Internet access to the official edition of the Federal Register and the Code of Federal Regulations is available on GPO Access at: <http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/index.html>

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 8003.

Dated: December 3, 1999.
C. Kent McGuire,
Assistant Secretary Office of Educational Research and Improvement.
[FR Doc. 99-31775 Filed 12-7-99; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

Fund for the Improvement of Education Program

The Fund for the Improvement of Education (FIE) Program is authorized to support nationally significant programs and projects to improve the quality of education, assist all students to meet challenging State content standards and challenging State student performance standards, and contribute to the achievement of the National Education Goals. In addition to this broad authorization, the Program is authorized to support a variety of specific types of projects.

This application package describes the type of project supported under this competition.

FIE: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Program

The focus of the competition described in this application package is the **FIE: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Program**. Under this program, State educational agencies provide technical and professional assistance to local educational agencies in the development and implementation of curriculum materials, teacher training, and other activities related to character education.

Statutory Requirements:

Who can apply for FIE-Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Project Grants?

Only State educational agencies, in partnership with one or more local educational agencies, may apply for grants under this program. The partnership must pursue State and local initiatives to meet the objectives of the program.

The term “State educational agency” means the agency primarily responsible for the State supervision of public elementary and secondary schools (20 U.S.C. 8011 (28)).

The term “local educational agency” means—

(1) a public board of education or other public authority legally constituted within a State for either administrative control or direction of, or to perform a service function for, public elementary or secondary schools in a city, county, township, school district, or other political subdivision of a State, or for such combination of school districts or counties as are recognized in a State as an administrative agency for its public elementary or secondary schools.

(2) The term includes any other public institution or agency having administrative control and direction of a public elementary or secondary school.

(3) The term includes an elementary or secondary school funded by the Bureau of Indian Affairs but only to the extent that such inclusion makes such school eligible for programs for which specific eligibility is not provided to such school in another provision of law and such school does not have a student population that is smaller than the student population of the local educational agency receiving assistance under this chapter with the smallest student population, except that such school shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of any State educational agency other than the Bureau of Indian Affairs (20 U.S.C. 8011 (18)).

Limits on Total Amount of Award

The statute governing the Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Program limits the total amount awarded to any State to \$1,000,000 and limits the funding period to five years. Within those parameters, the applicant may determine the combination of funding and time that is most appropriate. For example, one applicant may request \$500,000 per year for two years, while another may request \$100,000 for the first year, \$400,000 for the second and third years, and \$100,000 for the fourth year.

Limits on the Use of Funds

The authorizing statute requires:

- that the State educational agency shall not use more than one year for planning and program design.

- of the total funds received by a State educational agency in any fiscal year:

- (1) not more than 30 percent of such funds may be retained by the State educational agency, of which-

- (A) not more than 10 percent of such funds may be used for administrative purposes; and...

- (2) the remaining of such funds shall be used to award subgrants to local educational agencies, of which—

- (A) not more than 10 percent of such funds may be retained for administrative purposes; and....

In preparing an application, each applicant should take special care to provide a timeline and a narrative that explains the costs requested for each budget period.

Application Requirements

Applicants must propose projects designed to develop character education programs that incorporate the following elements of character: (a) caring; (b) civic virtue and citizenship; (c) justice and fairness; (d) respect; (e) responsibility; (f) trustworthiness; and (g) any other elements deemed appropriate by the members of the partnership.

In addition to the above, each application must include:

- (A) a list of the local educational agencies entering into the partnership with the State educational agency;

- (B) a description of the goals of the partnership;

- (C) a description of activities that will be pursued by the participating local educational agencies, including-

- (1) how parents, students, and other members of the community, including members of private and nonprofit organizations, will be involved in the design and implementation of the program;

- (2) curriculum and instructional practices;

(3) methods of teacher training and parent education that will be used or developed;
and

(4) examples of activities that will be carried out under this part;

(D) a description of how the State educational agency will provide technical and professional assistance to its local educational agency partners in the development and implementation of character education programs;

(E) a description of how the State educational agency will evaluate the success of local programs and how local educational agencies will evaluate the progress of their own programs;

(F) a description of how the State educational agency will assist other interested local educational agencies that are not members of the original partnership in designing and establishing programs;

(G) a description of how the State educational agency will establish a clearinghouse for information on model programs, materials, and other information the State and local educational agencies determine to be appropriate; and

(H) an assurance that the State educational agency will annually provide to the Secretary such information as may be required to determine the effectiveness of the program.

(I) an evaluation plan (please see information listed under the section: "What are the Selection Criteria for this grant competition?--Government Performance and Results Act").

A comprehensive evaluation plan must be included in each FIE: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Grant. The plan should include the performance indicators; clear benchmarks to monitor progress toward specific objectives; and outcome measures to assess impact on students, teachers, administrators, parents, and others.

The first evaluation report is due to the Secretary by the mid-term of the project and the final evaluation report not later than one year after completion of the project.

Factors which may be considered in evaluating the success of the program may include—

- (1) discipline problems;
- (2) students' grades;
- (3) participation in extracurricular activities;
- (4) parental community involvement; and
- (5) student and staff morale.

More specifically, the plan should identify the individual and/or organization that has agreed to serve as evaluator for the project and describe his/her qualifications. It should describe the evaluation design, indicating: (1) what types of data will be collected; (2) when various types of data will be collected; (3) what designs and methods will be used; (4) what instruments will be developed and when; (5) how the data will be analyzed; (6) when reports of results and outcomes will become available; and (7) how information will be used by the project to monitor progress and to provide accountability information to stakeholders both about success at the initial site and effective strategies for replication elsewhere.

Please review the statute authorizing the FIE: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Program which is included as Appendix I.

What are the Selection Criteria for this grant competition?

The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) govern selection of new grants and include selection procedures and a menu of general selection criteria and optional factors. Criteria and factors appropriate to the priority established for the competition are selected to evaluate the quality of each eligible grant application. For this new grant competition, the Secretary establishes the following Selection Criteria:

(1) Significance (25 points)

In determining the significance of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

- (A) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies.
- (B) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings.
- (C) The extent to which the results of the proposed project are to be disseminated in ways that will enable others to use the information or strategies.

(2) Quality of the Project Design (30 points)

In determining the quality of the design of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

- (A) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable.
- (B) The quality of the proposed demonstration design and procedures for documenting project activities and results.
- (C) The extent to which the proposed project represents an exceptional approach for meeting statutory purposes and requirements.
- (D) The extent to which the design for implementing and evaluating the proposed project will result in information to guide possible replication of project activities or strategies, including information about the effectiveness of the approach or strategies employed by the project.

(3) Quality of Project Personnel (5 points)

In determining the quality of project personnel for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability. In addition, the Secretary considers the following factor:

- (A) The qualification, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel.

(4) Adequacy of Resources (10 points)

In determining the adequacy of resources for the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

- (A) The adequacy of support, including facilities, equipment, supplies, and other resources, from the applicant organization or the lead applicant organization.
- (B) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project.
- (C) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project.

(5) Quality of the Management Plan (20 points)

In determining the adequacy of the management plan of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

- (A) The adequacy of the management plan to achieve the objectives of the proposed project on time and within budget, including clearly defined responsibilities, timelines, and milestones for accomplishing project tasks.
- (B) The extent to which the time commitments of the project director and principal investigator and other key project personnel are appropriate and adequate to meet the objectives of the proposed project.
- (C) How the applicant will ensure that a diversity of perspectives are brought to bear in the operation of the proposed project, including those of parents, teachers, the business community, a variety of disciplinary and professional fields, recipients or beneficiaries of services, or others, as appropriate.

(6) Quality of the Project Evaluation (10 points)

In determining the quality of the evaluation to be conducted of the proposed project, the Secretary considers the following factors:

- (A) The extent to which the methods of evaluation include the use of objective performance measures that are clearly related to the intended outcomes of the project and will produce quantitative and qualitative data to the extent possible.
- (B) The extent to which the evaluation will provide guidance about effective strategies suitable for replication or testing in other settings.

Government Performance and Results Act

The Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA) of 1993 places new management expectations and requirements on Federal departments and agencies by creating a framework for more effective planning, budgeting, program evaluation, and fiscal accountability for Federal programs. The intent of the Act is to improve public confidence by holding departments and agencies accountable for achieving program results. Departments and agencies must clearly describe the goals and objectives of their programs, identify resources and actions needed to accomplish these goals and objectives, develop a means of measuring progress made, and regularly report on their achievement. One important source of program information on successes and lessons learned is the project evaluation conducted under individual grants.

How do I apply for an FIE: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects grant?

Carefully read the entire application package and the authorizing legislation which is included as Appendix I before beginning to prepare an application. The **Statutory Requirements and Selection Criteria** identify who is eligible to apply under this competition, what applicants must propose to do, and what criteria will be used to evaluate applications. **Only State educational agencies, in partnership with one or more local educational agencies, may apply for grants under this program.**

THE APPLICATION

Each application should include:

- 1. Title Page.** Use the Title Page form (ED Form 424) included in this application package.
- 2. Table of Contents.** Include a one page table of contents.
- 3. Abstract.** Provide a one page, double-spaced abstract that describes the need to be addressed by the project, summarizes the proposed activities, and identifies the intended outcomes.
- 4. Narrative.** Provide a narrative describing your project. There are no page limitation requirements, however, it is advisable to use a readable font and provide information in an organized fashion. Although a standard outline is not required, you should address the Statutory Requirements, Selection Criteria, and issues discussed in this application package. **Please double space your application and number each page.**

5. Budget. Use the attached Budget Summary form (ED Form 524), or a suitable facsimile, to present a complete budget summary for each year of the project. Please provide, **for each year**, a narrative which supports the expenditures listed on the Budget Summary Form and indicates how funds will be divided among the State educational agency and the partner local educational agencies as required by the statute under the "Use of Funds section (20 USC 8003(e)) and listed on page 4 of this application package under "Use of Funds."

Please include project staff travel funds for one trip during each year of the project to a FIE: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects Grants meeting in Washington, DC. Each trip will be for two days for two persons. At these project meetings, grant recipients will have an opportunity to strengthen their efforts by collaborating and networking with other grantees funded in this program.

THE APPENDICES

Each application should be accompanied by an appendix which includes:

- 1. Project Personnel.** Please provide a brief summary of the background and experience of key project staff as they relate to the specific project activities you are proposing.
- 2. List of Partners.** List all project partners and other sources of support (if any), their contact persons, addresses, telephone numbers, Fax numbers, and E-mail addresses. The roles and contributions of all partners and other sources of support should be described within the narrative.
- 3. Equitable Access and Participation.** Section 427 of the General Education Provision Act (GEPA) affects applicants under this program. **All applicants for new awards must include information in their applications to address this new provision in order to receive funding under this program.**

Section 427 requires each applicant (other than an individual person) to include in its application a description of the steps the applicant proposes to take to ensure equitable access to, and participation in, its Federally-assisted program for students, teachers, and other program beneficiaries with special needs.

This provision allows applicants discretion in developing the required description. The statute, highlights six types of barriers that can impede equitable access or participation: gender, race, national origin, color, disability, or age. Based on local circumstances, you should determine whether these or other barriers may prevent your students, teachers, etc. from such access or participation in, the Federally-funded project or activity. The description in your application of steps to be taken to overcome these barriers need not be lengthy; you may provide a clear and succinct description of how you plan to address those barriers that are applicable to your circumstances. In addition, the information may be provided in a single narrative, or, if appropriate, may be discussed in connection with related topics in the application.

Each application should include this description in a clearly identified section of the appendix. It should support the discussion of similar issues in the narrative section of the application.

Section 427 is not intended to duplicate the requirements of civil rights statutes, but rather to ensure that, in designing their projects, applicants for Federal funds address equity concerns that may affect the ability of certain potential beneficiaries to fully participate in the project and to achieve to high standards. Consistent with program requirements and its approved application, an applicant may use Federal funds awarded to it to eliminate barriers it identifies.

The following examples may help illustrate how an applicant may comply with section 427.

(1) An applicant that proposes to carry out an adult literacy project serving, among others, adults with limited English proficiency, might describe in its application how it intends to distribute a brochure about the proposed project to such potential participants in their native language.

(2) An applicant that proposes to develop instructional materials for classroom use might describe how it will make the materials available on audio tape or in Braille for students who are blind.

(3) An applicant that proposes to carry out a model science program for secondary students and is concerned that the girls may be less likely than boys to enroll in the course, might indicate how it intends to conduct "outreach" efforts to girls to encourage their enrollment.

We recognize that many applicants may already be implementing effective steps to ensure equity of access and participation in their grant programs, and we appreciate your cooperation in responding to the requirements of this provision.

[The paperwork burden for compliance with Section 427 of GEPA is recorded under OMB Control No. 1801-0004 (Expiration Date 8/31/2001). The time required to complete this information collection is estimated to vary from 1 to 3 hours per response, with an average of 1.5 hours, including the time to review instructions search existing data resources, gather and maintain the data needed, and complete and review the information collection. If you have any comments concerning the accuracy of the time estimate(s) or suggestions for improving this form, please write to: U.S. Department of Education, Washington, DC 20202-4651.]

4. The following forms are required in all applications. They may be photocopied as necessary.

--Title Page form (**ED Form 424**)

--Budget Summary form (**ED Form 524**)

--Assurances - Non-Construction Programs (**Standard Form SF424B**)

--Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements (**ED Form 80-0013**)

--Disclosure of Lobbying Activities (**Standard Form LLL**)

OTHER ATTACHMENTS

Other attachments are not encouraged. Reviewers will have a limited time to read each application. Supplementary materials such as videotapes, CD-ROMs, files on disks, commercial publications, press clippings, testimonial letters, etc. will probably not be reviewed and will not be returned to the applicant.

How do I submit an application?

The deadline for RECEIPT of applications is February 11, 2000. All applications must be received on or before that date. The closing date and procedures for guaranteeing timely submission will be strictly observed.

Mailing Address for Applications

Mail applications to:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Attention: CFDA 84.215V
400 Maryland Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Applications sent by mail must be RECEIVED no later than February 11, 2000. Applications received after the deadline date will not be considered for funding unless the applicant can show proof that the application was (1) sent by registered or certified mail not later than five days before the deadline date; or (2) sent by a commercial carrier not later than two days before the deadline date. The following are acceptable as proof of mailing:

- (1) A legibly dated U.S. Postal Service Postmark.
- (2) A legible mail receipt with the date of mailing stamped by the U.S. Postal Service.
- (3) A dated shipping label, invoice, or receipt from a commercial carrier, or
- (4) Any other proof of mailing acceptable to the U.S. Secretary of Education.

If an application is sent through the U.S. Postal Service, the Secretary does not accept either of the following as proof of mailing:

- (1) A private metered postmark, or
- (2) A mail receipt that is not dated by the U.S. Postal Service.

An applicant should note that the U.S. Postal Service does not uniformly provide a dated postmark. Before relying on this method, an applicant should check with its local post office.

An applicant is encouraged to use registered or at least first class mail.

Each late applicant will be notified that its application will not be considered.

Applications Delivered by Hand/Courier Service

Applications delivered by hand must be received before 4:30 p.m., February 11, 2000.

Applications delivered by hand before the deadline date will be accepted daily at the Application Control Center, as indicated below, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. (Eastern Standard Time) except Saturdays, Sundays, or federal holidays.

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center,
Room 3633
General Services Administration National Capital Region Building #3
7th & D Streets, SW
Washington, DC 20202-4725

Individuals delivering applications must use the D Street Entrance. Proper identification is necessary to enter the building.

Number of Copies of the Application

Applicants are required to submit one (1) signed original and two (2) copies of the application. Each copy of the application must be covered with a Title Page (form included in these guidelines) or a reasonable facsimile. All applicants are encouraged to submit voluntarily an additional two (2) copies of the application. The absence of these additional copies will not influence the selection process. **All sections of the application and all sections of the appendix must be suitable for photocopying to be included in the review (at least one copy of the application should be unbound and suitable for photocopying).**

GRANT APPLICATION RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGMENT

If you fail to receive the notification of application receipt within fifteen (15) days from the closing date, call:

U.S. Department of Education
Coordination and Control Branch
202-708-9495

ASSURANCES AND CERTIFICATIONS

Applications selected for funding will require a signed ED Form 80-0013 (Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility Matters; and Drug-Free Workplace Requirements), Standard Form SF 424B (Assurances - Non-Construction Programs), and Standard Form LLL (Disclosure of Lobbying Activities) before an award is made.

[NOTE: In the printed application package, the Standard Forms and Certifications and Assurances are located here. In the electronic version, the hypertext links are provided for you. Electronic versions of the application forms may also be found at <http://ocfo.ed.gov/grntinfo/appforms/>]

The forms that are needed are:

--[Title Page](#) (Ed Form 424 with Instructions with the Protection of Human Subjects Attachment and Instructions)

--[Budget form](#) (Ed Form 524 with Instructions)

--[Assurances](#) - Non-Construction Programs (Standard Form SF424B)

--[Certifications Regarding Lobbying; Debarment, Suspension and Other Responsibility matters; Drug-Free Workplace Requirements](#) (ED Form 80-0013)

--[Disclosure of Lobbying Activities](#) (Standard Form LLL)

Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs

State Single Point of Contact -- Executive Order 12372 and List of State Contacts.

Executive Order 12372 and 34 CFR 79 apply to this program.

The objective of the Executive order is to foster an intergovernmental partnership and to strengthen federalism by relying on State and local processes for State and local government coordination and review of proposed Federal financial assistance.

Applicants must contact the appropriate State Single Point of Contact to find out about, and to comply with, the State's process under Executive Order 12372. Applicants proposing to perform activities in more than one State should immediately contact the Single Point of Contact for each of those States and follow the procedure established in each of those States under the Executive order. A listing containing the Single Point of Contact for each State is included in this appendix.

In States that have not established a process or chosen a program for review, State, areawide, regional, and local entities may submit comments directly to the Department.

Any State Process Recommendation and other comments submitted by a State Single Point of Contact and any comments from State, areawide, regional, and local entities must be mailed or hand-delivered by the date indicated in the actual application notice to the following address:

The Secretary, EO 12372
CFDA# 84.215V
U.S. Department of Education, room R7W301,
400 Maryland Avenue, SW.,
Washington, DC 20202.

Proof of mailing will be determined on the same basis as applications (see 34 CFR 75.102). Recommendations or comments may be hand-delivered until 4:30 p.m. (Eastern time) on the date indicated in the actual application notice.

PLEASE NOTE THAT THE ABOVE ADDRESS IS NOT THE SAME ADDRESS AS THE ONE TO WHICH THE APPLICANT SUBMITS ITS COMPLETED APPLICATION. DO NOT SEND APPLICATIONS TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

STATE SINGLE POINTS OF CONTACT
(As of October 1, 1999)

Note: In accordance with Executive Order #12372, Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs, this listing represents the designated State Single Points of Contact (SSPOCs). Because participation is voluntary, some States and Territories no longer participate in the process. These include: Alabama, Alaska, American Samoa, Colorado, Connecticut, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Louisiana, Massachusetts, Minnesota, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, Tennessee, Vermont, Virginia, and Washington.

The jurisdictions not listed no longer participate in the process. However, an applicant is still eligible to apply for a grant or grants even if its respective State, Territory, Commonwealth, etc. does not have a (SSPOC).

<p>ARIZONA</p> <p>Ms. Joni Saad State of Arizona Arizona Department of Commerce Office of Economic Planning and Development Arizona State Clearinghouse 3800 North Central Avenue, Fourteenth Floor Phoenix, Arizona 85012 Telephone: (602) 280-1315 FAX: (602) 280-8144 Jonis@ep.state.az.us</p>	<p>ARKANSAS</p> <p>Mr. Tracy L. Copeland Manager, State Clearinghouse State of Arkansas Office of Intergovernmental Services Department of Finance and Administration 1515 7th Street, Room 412 Little Rock, Arkansas 72203 Telephone: (501) 682-1074 FAX: (501) 682-5206 Tlcopeland@dfa.state.ar.us</p>
<p>CALIFORNIA</p> <p>State of California Governor's Office of Planning and Research State Clearinghouse Attn: Sheila Brown Street Address: 1400 Tenth Street, Room 121 Sacramento, CA 95814 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 3044 Sacramento, CA 95812-3044 Telephone: (916) 445-0613 FAX: (916) 323-3018 www.opr.ca.gov/clearinghouse.html</p>	<p>DELAWARE</p> <p>State of Delaware Executive Department Office of the Budget Charles H. Hopkins Deputy Director 540 S. Dupont Highway 3rd Floor Dover, DE 19901 Telephone: (302) 739-3323 FAX: (302) 739-5661 Chopkins@state.de.us http://www.state.de.us/budget/budget.htm</p>
<p>DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA</p> <p>Mr. Charles Nichols State Single Point of Contact Government of the District of Columbia Office of the Chief Financial Officer Office of Grants Management and Development 717 14th Street, NW, Suite 1200 Washington, DC 20005 Telephone: (202) 727-1700 (Direct) Telephone: (202) 727-6537 (Secretary) FAX: (202) 727-1617 E-mail: OGMD-OGMD@dcgov.org</p>	<p>FLORIDA</p> <p>State of Florida Florida State Clearinghouse Department of Community Affairs 2555 Shumard Oak Blvd. Tallahassee, Florida 32399-2100 Telephone: (850) 922-5438 FAX: (850) 414-0479 Contact: Ms. Cherie Trainor Telephone: (850) 414-5495 Cherie.trainor@dca.state.fl.us</p>

<p>GEORGIA</p> <p>Ms. Debra Stephens, Coordinator State of Georgia Office of Planning and Budget Georgia State Clearinghouse 270 Washington Street, S.W. 8th Floor Atlanta, GA 30334 Telephone: (404) 656-3855 FAX: (404) 656-7901 ssda@mail.opb.state.ga.us</p>	<p>ILLINOIS</p> <p>Ms. Virginia Bova, State Single Point of Contact State of Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs Policy Development/Planning & Research James R. Thompson Center 100 West Randolph, Suite 3-400 Chicago, IL 60601 Telephone: (312) 814-6028 FAX: (312) 814-1800 vbova@commerce.state.il.us http://www.state.il.us/fedclear/</p>
<p>INDIANA</p> <p>Ms. Allison Becker, Budget Analyst State of Indiana Indiana State Budget Agency Office of the Director 212 State House, Room 121 Indianapolis, IA 46204-2796 Telephone: (317) 232-5610 Telephone: (317) 232-7221 (Direct Line) FAX: (317) 233-3323 http://www.state.in.us/sba/index.html</p>	<p>IOWA</p> <p>Mr. Steven R. McCann State of Iowa Department of Economic Development Community and Rural Development Division City Development Board 200 East Grand Avenue Des Moines, IA 50309 Telephone: (515) 242-4719 FAX: (515) 242-4809 Steve.mccann@ided.state.ia.us</p>
<p>KENTUCKY</p> <p>Mr. Kevin J. Goldsmith, Director Ms. Sandra Brewer, Executive Secretary State of Kentucky Intergovernmental Affairs Office of the Governor 700 Capitol Avenue Frankfort, KY 40601 Telephone: (502) 564-2611 FAX: (502) 564-0437 Kgoldmkgosmith@mail.state.ky.us Sbrewer@mail.state.ky.us</p>	<p>MAINE</p> <p>Ms.. Joyce Benson State of Maine Office of the Governor Executive Maine State Planning Office 184 State Street Station #38 Augusta, ME 04333-0038 Telephone: (207) 287-3261 FAX: (207) 287-6489 Joyce.benson@state.me.us</p>
<p>MARYLAND</p> <p>Ms. Linda Janey Manager, Planning and Project Review State of Maryland Maryland Office of Planning 301 W. Preston Street – Room 1104 Baltimore, MD 21201-2365 Telephone: (410) 767-4490 Telephone: (410) 767-4395 FAX: (410) 767-4480 linda@mail.op.state.md.us</p>	<p>MICHIGAN</p> <p>State of Michigan Mr. Richard Pfaff, Regional Review Coordinator Southeast Michigan Council of Governments Federal Project Regional Review 660 Plaza Drive – Suite 1900 Detroit, MI 48226 Telephone: (313) 961-4266 FAX: (313) 961-4869 pfaff@semcog.org</p>

<p>MISSISSIPPI</p> <p>Ms. Catherine Mallette, Clearinghouse Officer State of Mississippi Department of Finance and Administration 550 High Street 303 Walters Sillers Building Jackson, MS 39201-3087 Telephone: (601) 359-6762 FAX: (601) 359-6758 http://www.dfa.state.ms.us/</p>	<p>MISSOURI</p> <p>Ms. Lois Pohl, Executive Director State of Missouri Office of Administration Division of General Services Missouri Commission on Intergovernmental Cooperation Federal Assistance Clearinghouse P.O. Box 809 Jefferson Building, Room 915 Jefferson City, MO 65102 Telephone: (573) 751-4834 FAX: (573) 522-4395 lpohl01@mail.state.mo.us pohl @mail.oa.state.mo.us</p>
<p>NEVADA</p> <p>Ms. Heather Elliott Grants and Project Analyst State of Nevada Department of Administration Budget Division Planning Section Nevada State Clearinghouse/SPOC 209 East Musser Street, Room 200 Carson City, NV 89701-4298 Telephone: (775) 684-0223 Maud Naroll, Chief) Telephone: (775) 684-0209 (Heather Elliott) FAX: (775) 684-0260 Helliot@govmail.state.nv.us</p>	<p>NEW HAMPSHIRE</p> <p>Mr. Jeffrey H. Taylor, Director State of New Hampshire Executive Department Office of State Planning Intergovernmental Review Process Attn: Mr. Mike Blake 2½ Beacon Street Concord, NH 03301 Telephone: (603) 271-2155 FAX: (603) 271-1728 Jtaylor@osp.state.nh.us</p>
<p>NEW MEXICO</p> <p>Mr. Nick Mandell, Website Manager State Single Point of Contact State of New Mexico Department of Finance and Administration Local Government Division New Mexico Federal Clearinghouse Bataan Memorial Building – Room 201 Santa Fe, NM 87503 Telephone: (505) 827-4991 FAX: (505) 827-4984 nmandel@dfa.state.nm.us</p>	<p>NORTH CAROLINA</p> <p>Ms. Jeanette Furney Intergovernmental Review Coordinator State of North Carolina North Carolina Department of Administration State Clearinghouse 116 West Jones Street – Suite 5106 Raleigh, NC 27603-8003 Telephone: (919) 807-2425 FAX: (919) 733-9571 http://www.doa.state.nc.us/doa/clearing/ welcome.htm jeanette_furney@mail.doa.state.nc.us</p>
<p>NORTH DAKOTA</p> <p>Governor's Office Office of Management & Budget Office of Intergovernmental Assistance Division of Community Services 600 East Boulevard Avenue Department 105 Bismark, ND 58505-0170 Telephone: (701) 328-2094 (Clerical Support) FAX: (701) 328-2308</p>	<p>RHODE ISLAND</p> <p>Mr. Kevin Nelson Review Coordinator State of Rhode Island Department of Administration Office of Library & Information Services Division of Planning One Capitol Hill, 4th Floor Providence RI 02908-5870 Telephone: (401) 222-1220 (Secretary) Telephone: (401) 222-2093 (Direct)</p>

http://www.state.nd.us/dcs	FAX: (401) 222-2083 knelson@doa.state.ri.us
SOUTH CAROLINA Ms. Omeagia Burgess Grant Coordinator State of South Carolina Office of State Budget 1122 Ladies Street – 12 th Floor Columbia, SC 29201 Telephone: (803) 734-0494 FAX: (803) 734-0645 Aburgess@budget.state.sc.us	TEXAS Mr. Tom Adams Director, Intergovernmental Coordination State of Texas State Single Point of Contact Office of the Governor Office of Budget and Planning P.O. Box 12428 Austin, TX 78711-2428 Telephone: (512) 463-1771 FAX: (512) 936-2681 tadams@governor.state.tx.us
UTAH Ms. Carolyn B. Wright, Research Analyst State of Utah Governor's Office of Planning and Budget Resource Planning/Legal Review 116 State Capitol Salt Lake City, UT 84114 Telephone: (801) 538-1535 (Direct) FAX: (801) 538-1547 cwright@gov.state.ut.us	WEST VIRGINIA Mr. Glenn F. (Fred) Cutlip, Director State of West Virginia West Virginia Development Office Community Development Division Capitol Complex, Bldg. 6, Room 553 1900 Washington Street East Charleston, WV 25305-0311 Telephone: (304) 558-4010 x048 FAX: (304) 558-3248 fcutlip@wvdo.org
WISCONSIN Mr. Jeffrey T. Smith, Section Chief State of Wisconsin Wisconsin Department of Administration 101 East Wilson Street – 6 th Floor P.O. Box 7868 Madison, WI 53707 Telephone: (608) 266-0267 FAX: (608) 267-6931 jeffrey.smith@doa.state.wi.us	WYOMING Ms. Sandy Ross, Executive Assistant State of Wyoming State Single Point of Contact Department of Administration and Information A&I Planning and Coordination Emerson Building 2001 Capitol Avenue, Room 214 Cheyenne, WY 82002 Telephone: (307) 777-5492 FAX: (307) 777-3696 sross1@missc.state.wy.us http://www-cio.state.wy.us
U.S. TERRITORIES GUAM Mr. Joseph Rivera, Acting Director Territory of Guam Office of the Governor Bureau of Budget & Management Research P.O. Box 2950 HAGÂTÑA, GU 96932 Telephone: (671) 475-9411 Telephone: (671) 475-9412 Telephone: (671) 475-9429 FAX: (671) 475-2825 jer@ns.gov.gu bbmr@ns.gov.gu	U.S. TERRITORIES PUERTO RICO Mr. José Caballero-Mercado, Chairman Commonwealth of Puerto Rico Puerto Rico Planning Board Federal Proposals Review Office Minillas Government Center P.O. Box 41119 San Juan, PR 00940-1119 Telephone: (787) 727-4444 (PRPB) Telephone: (787) 723-6190 (FPRO) FAX: (787) 724-3270 i@jp.prstar.net

<p>NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS</p> <p>Mrs. Virginia Villagomez, Acting Special Assistant Government of the Commonwealth Of the Northern Mariana Islands Office of the Governor Office of Management and Budget Capitol Hill, Caller Box 10007 Saipan, MP 96950 Telephone: (670) 664-2265 Telephone: (670) 664-2266 Telephone: (670) 664-2267 FAX: (670) 664-2272 omb.villagomez@saipan.com</p>	<p>THE UNITED STATES VIRGIN ISLANDS</p> <p>Mr. Ira Mills, Director Government of the Virgin Islands of the United States U.S.V.I. Office of Management & Budget No. 41 Norre Gade Emancipation Garden Station, 2nd Floor Charlotte Amalie, U.S.V.I. 00802 http://www.gov.vi/omb/ <i>Please direct all questions and correspondence about intergovernmental review to Daisy Millin.</i> Telephone: (340) 774-0750 FAX: (340) 776-0069 Irmills@usvi.org Dmmillin@usvi.org</p>

Note: This list is based on the most current information provided by the States. Changes to this list may be provided by a State's officially designated representative by sending a message to grants@omb.eop.gov, or sending correspondence to the following postal address:

Attn: Grants Management
Office of Management and Budget
New Executive Office Building
Suite 6025
725 17th Street, NW
Washington, DC 20503

This list is updated every six months and is also published biannually in the Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA).

APPLICATION PACKAGE CHECKLIST

APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED NO LATER THAN
FEBRUARY 11, 2000

CHECK:

- _____ The Application Title Page has been completed according to the instructions on the back of the title page.
- _____ The Application Title Page has been **signed and dated by an authorized official** and the signed original has been included with your submission.
- _____ Submit one original plus two copies of the application and the appendix (including one unbound copy suitable for photocopying) PLUS two voluntarily submitted additional copies of the application and appendix and three voluntarily submitted additional copies of the individual title page.

EACH COPY OF THE APPLICATION SHOULD INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS:

The Application

- _____ the title page form
- _____ table of contents
- _____ one-page abstract
- _____ narrative
- _____ the budget summary form
- _____ detailed budget justification

The Appendix

- _____ list of project personnel
- _____ list of partners
- _____ statement of equitable participation (GEPA 427)
- _____ certifications and assurances

ADDRESS AND DEADLINE RECEIPT DATE

FIE: Partnerships in Character Education Pilot Projects
Attn: 84.215V
U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Room 3633
General Services Administration National Capital Region Building #3
7th & D Streets,
SW Washington, DC 20202-4725

Telephone: 202-708-8493

All applications must be received by February 11, 2000.

**TO PROSPECTIVE PARTICIPANTS
IN U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
GRANT PROGRAM**

Applicants for grants from the U.S. Department of Education (ED) have to compete for limited funds.

Deadlines assure all applicants that they will be treated fairly and equally. For these reasons, ED must set strict deadlines for grant applications. Failure to meet a deadline will mean that an application will be rejected without any consideration.

The rules, including the deadline, for applying for each grant are published individually in the Federal Register. A one-year subscription to the Register may be obtained by sending \$340.00 to: Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402-9371. (Send Check or money order only, no cash or stamps.)

The instructions in the Federal Register must be followed exactly. Do not accept any other advice you may receive. No ED employees are authorized to extend any deadline published in the Federal Register.

Questions regarding submission of applications may be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Education
Application Control Center
Washington, DC 20202-4725

EDUCATION BULLETIN BOARD

There is now an electronic bulletin board with information about grant and contract opportunities at the U.S. Department of Education. The bulletin board is open to public access.

Bulletin Board Data Number
202-260-9950

ED Internet Home Page	http://www.ed.gov	(WWW address)
	gopher://gopher.ed.gov	(Gopher address)
OCFO Web Internet Page:	http://ocfo.ed.gov	(WWW address)

APPENDIX I
The Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965
as amended by the
Improving America's Schools Act of 1994

Title X--Programs of National Significance
Part A--Fund for the Improvement of Education

SEC. 10103. PARTNERSHIPS IN CHARACTER EDUCATION PILOT PROJECT (20 USC 8003)

(a) Program authorized

(1) In general -- The Secretary is authorized to make up to a total of ten grants annually to partnerships of State educational agencies and local educational agencies for the design and implementation of character education programs that incorporate the elements of character listed in subsection (d) of this section, as well as other character elements identified by applicants.

(2) Maximum amount of grant -- No State educational agency shall receive more than a total of \$ 1,000,000 in grants under this part.

(3) Duration -- Each grant under this section shall be awarded for a period not to exceed five years, of which the State educational agency shall not use more than one year for planning and program design.

(b) State educational agency applications

(1) Requirement -- Each State educational agency desiring a grant under this section shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may require.

(2) Partnerships -- Each State educational agency desiring a grant under this section shall form a partnership with at least one local educational agency to be eligible for funding. The partnership shall pursue State and local initiatives to meet the objectives of this section.

(3) Application -- Each application under this section shall include -

(A) a list of the local educational agencies entering into the partnership with the State educational agency;

(B) a description of the goals of the partnership;

(C) a description of activities that will be pursued by the participating local educational agencies, including -

(i) how parents, students, and other members of the community, including members of private and nonprofit organizations, will be involved in the design and implementation of the program;

(ii) curriculum and instructional practices;

(iii) methods of teacher training and parent education that will be used or developed; and

(iv) examples of activities that will be carried out under this part;

- (D) a description of how the State educational agency will provide technical and professional assistance to its local educational agency partners in the development and implementation of character education programs;
- (E) a description of how the State educational agency will evaluate the success of local programs and how local educational agencies will evaluate the progress of their own programs;
- (F) a description of how the State educational agency will assist other interested local educational agencies that are not members of the original partnership in designing and establishing programs;
- (G) a description of how the State educational agency will establish a clearinghouse for information on model programs, materials, and other information the State and local educational agencies determine to be appropriate;
- (H) an assurance that the State educational agency will annually provide to the Secretary such information as may be required to determine the effectiveness of the program; and
- (I) any other information that the Secretary may require.

(4) Non-partner local educational agencies -- Any local educational agency that was not a partner with the State when the application was submitted may become a partner by submitting an application for partnership to the State educational agency, containing such information that the State educational agency may require.

(c) Evaluation and program development

(1) Requirement -- Each State educational agency receiving a grant under this section shall submit to the Secretary a comprehensive evaluation of the program assisted under this part, including the impact on students, teachers, administrators, parents, and others -

- (A) by the mid-term of the program; and
- (B) not later than one year after completion of such program.

(2) Contracts for evaluation -- Each State educational agency receiving a grant under this section may contract with outside sources, including institutions of higher education, and private and nonprofit organizations, for purposes of evaluating their program and measuring the success of the program toward fostering in students the elements of character listed in subsection (b) of this section.

(3) Factors -- Factors which may be considered in evaluating the success of the program may include -

- (A) discipline problems;
- (B) students' grades;
- (C) participation in extracurricular activities;
- (D) parental and community involvement,
- (E) faculty and administration involvement; and
- (F) student and staff morale.

(4) Materials and program development -- Local educational agencies, after consulting with the State educational agency, may contract with outside sources, including institutions of higher education, and private and nonprofit organizations, for assistance in developing curriculum, materials, teacher training, and other activities related to character education.

(d) Elements of character

(1) In general -- Applicants desiring funding under this part shall develop character education programs that incorporate the following elements of character: -

- (A) Caring.
- (B) Civic virtue and citizenship.
- (C) Justice and fairness.
- (D) Respect.
- (E) Responsibility.
- (F) Trustworthiness.
- (G) Any other elements deemed appropriate by the members of the partnership.

(2) Additional elements of character -- A local educational agency participating under this section may, after consultation with schools and communities of such agency, define additional elements of character that the agency determines to be important to the schools and communities of such agency.

(e) Use of funds -- Of the total funds received by a State educational agency in any fiscal year under this section -

(1) not more than 30 percent of such funds may be retained by the State educational agency, of which-

- (A) not more than 10 percent of such funds may be used for administrative purposes; and
- (B) the remainder of such funds may be used for
 - (i) collaborative initiatives with local educational agencies;
 - (ii) the establishment of the clearinghouse, preparation of materials, teacher training; and
 - (iii) other appropriate activities; and

(2) the remaining of such funds shall be used to award subgrants to local educational agencies, of which -

- (A) not more than 10 percent of such funds may be retained for administrative purposes; and
- (B) the remainder of such funds may be used to -
 - (i) award subgrants to schools within the local educational agency; and
 - (ii) pursue collaborative efforts with the State educational agency.

(f) Selection of grantees

(1) Criteria -- The Secretary shall select, through peer review, partnerships to receive grants under this section on the basis of the quality of the applications submitted under subsection (b) of this section, taking into consideration such factors as -

- (A) the quality of the activities proposed by local educational agencies;
- (B) the extent to which the program fosters in students the elements of character;
- (C) the extent of parental, student, and community involvement;
- (D) the number of local educational agencies involved in the effort;
- (E) the quality of the plan for measuring and assessing success; and
- (F) the likelihood that the goals of the program will be realistically achieved.

(2) Diversity of projects -- The Secretary shall approve applications under this section in a manner that ensures, to the extent practicable, that programs assisted under this section --

(A) serve different areas of the Nation, including urban, suburban, and rural areas;
and

(B) serve schools that serve minorities, Native Americans, students of limited-English proficiency, and disadvantaged students.